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COUCH THEATER

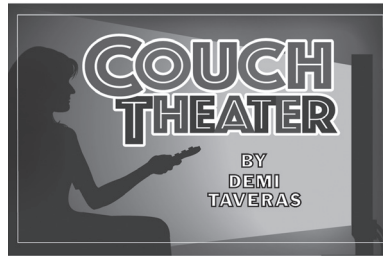
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By Demi Taveras

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Apple TV+

Photo Caption: Javier Bardem, left, and Amy

Adams star in “Cape Fear.”



“Michael” (PG-13) — Antoine Fuqua, director of “Training Day” and “The Equalizer” films, undertook the assignment of a lifetime by signing on to direct this biographical film about the King of Pop, Michael Jackson. Jaafar Jackson portrays his legendary celebrity uncle, with this being his very first acting role! The film picks up with the start of the Jackson 5 at Motown, trickling into the years where Michael emerged as a prominent solo artist with albums like “Off the Wall” and “Thriller.” Surprisingly, the film culminates in 1988, decades before Michael passed away, as he embarks on the Bad World Tour. Obviously, due to its abrupt ending and viewers’ responses, a second movie was confirmed by Lionsgate Films in May. While the performances of the cast can be praised, specifically Jaafar and Colman Domingo (“Euphoria”) as Joe Jackson, this “biopic” leans more toward a jukebox musical due to its omission of Michael’s sexual assault allegations and the nuances that made him the controversial yet iconic figure he is today. Available to rent on June 9. (Fandango at Home)

“Cape Fear” (TV-MA) — This hair-raising psychological thriller series stars a trio of incredible actors — Javier Bardem (“F1”), Amy Adams (“Nightbitch”), and Patrick Wilson (“The Conjuring: Last Rites”). Produced by powerhouse directors Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg, “Cape Fear” is based on the novel “The Executioners” by

John D. MacDonald and has two film adaptations from 1962 and 1991 that precede it. Bardem plays Max Cady, an ex-convict who gets released from prison after serving a sentence for a crime that he didn’t commit. When Anna (Adams) and Tom (Wilson), the attorneys who represented him in court, hear word that Max is walking free once again, they begin to fear for their lives and the lives of their children because Max seems dead set on getting his revenge! The first two episodes are out now to stream. (Apple TV+)

“Earth, Wind & Fire (To Be Celestial Vs. That’s The Weight of The World)” (TV-MA) — This documentary film out now to stream dives deep into the bestselling Chicago band Earth, Wind & Fire, who’s had sales of more than 90 million records worldwide! Although their start began in 1969, their music continues to sound loudly today, especially songs like “September,” “Boogie Wonderland,” and “Let’s Groove.” In the doc, viewers get to see archives of visual, audio and written material from the band, as well as appearances from public figures like Barack Obama, Lionel Richie, H.E.R., Stevie Wonder, and more. Musician and filmmaker Questlove directed and produced this project, and he also helped compile the music for the doc alongside composer Raymond Angry. (HBO Max)

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Courtesy of Apple TV+

Javier Bardem, left, and Amy Adams star in “Cape Fear.”